

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Kodiak Island Borough****Project Title:**

Kodiak Island Borough - Island-Wide Comprehensive Transportation System Feasibility Study

State Funding Requested: \$ 250,000**House District: 36 - R**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Study the feasibility of connecting remote communities with small ferry service. Investigate infrastructure needed to expand air service to include tanker/freighter aircraft where marine service is not practical.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$250,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Five incorporated cities and one IRA village within the Kodiak Island Borough are not connected to the road system, and can be reached only by air or water. Two have limited AMHS service. Regular marine freight and bulk fuel delivery vendors have recently ceased service to all six communities causing closure of local grocery stores and challenging local fuel suppliers. These conditions have added yet another multiplier to the cost of living and doing business in these economically distressed communities.

Reliable marine service will reduce the cost of transporting people and goods to and from the City of Kodiak for locals, visitors, and service providers. Ferry service will enhance economic development opportunities for these financially depressed communities. Government and private service providers will experience a reduction in the cost of services to the communities.

This project will study the feasibility of developing small marine ferry services to connect these coastal communities to the City of Kodiak. Conceptually, smaller vessels require smaller infrastructure and smaller costs. The project report will suggest the practicalities of developing surface transportation versus airfield expansion for each community coordinated with an island-wide transportation system.

Project Timeline:

The project is expected to be completed within one year. An RFP would be generated as soon as funding is approved.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

NA

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Rick Gifford

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

more), which includes basic lab space (which has been turned into office space in the existing building. Though the cost of construction of a new facility is estimated to be over \$13,200,000, KIB is requesting 50% of that amount from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council. That request is associated with the "research" portion of the facility. The Borough will revenue bond the amount above and beyond what has been acquired through state legislative appropriations and federal sources. The Borough has received \$2,950,000 in state appropriations.

3. **Feasibility Study of an Island-Wide Comprehensive Transportation System**

Total cost for the project:

State funding request:

\$250,000

\$250,000

This feasibility study will examine the comprehensive need for an island-wide air, road, and marine transportation system including rural ferry service. This important study will examine the current infrastructure found around the island and make recommendations for logical development. Infrastructure improvements are important in developing private enterprise and making many of these communities sustainable. These rural transportation services can be an extension of and connecting to existing air and ferry service based in the Kodiak community. Such a study is of major significance since freight and bulk fuel delivery companies have recently ended service to villages on Kodiak Island.

4. **Womens Bay Emergency Shelter**

Total cost for the project:

State funding request.

\$700,000

\$700,000

There is no emergency shelter in the Womens Bay community. Womens Bay is located 8 miles from town and 2 miles from the USGC Support Center. Should there be a tsunami that destroys the roads, or a rock slide at Womens Mountain or Pillar Mountain, the community of 670 residents would be without support services. A logical location for an emergency shelter is adjacent and attached to the Womens Bay Fire House. A proposed 2,500 square foot addition with an emergency generator is proposed.

5. **Emergency Generators for Schools/Emergency Shelters**

Total cost for the project:

State funding request.

\$1,593,000

\$1,593,000

Many of our in-town and village school facilities act as emergency shelters during extreme weather events or during times of natural or economic catastrophes. There is a need to equip these school facilities with emergency generators to provide power for sheltering needs and as back-up power during short term loss of electricity. These generators will be housed permanently at these school facilities and become part of the building. Located at these sites, they can be tested and operated and maintained as part of the service to the overall school building.

6. **East Elementary Traffic Flow Improvements**

Total cost for the project:

State funding request.

\$495,000

\$495,000

Design and reconfiguration of the existing parking area will provide for a safer separation of pedestrians, small vehicle traffic and bus loading and unloading as well as reduce risks. A new design will require an increase in the total area of the parking lot to allow adequate parking to support increased building usage and occupant load.